



# **THE SUSSEX WOODCRAFT SOCIETY**

**NEWSLETTER No 113 JULY 2018**

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Hi everyone, here is your latest SWS newsletter.

## **CHAIRMAN'S LETTER**

I know we are in the middle of a heat wave, which we will all be complaining about soon, if we are not already! Even hosepipe bans are being introduced in certain places. I'm sure it will not last that long and then we will probably be back to the good old English summer. Come September, everyone will complain how dull, miserable and wet it was, forgetting this spell of heat we are having! I probably should not mention this but someone did mention to me only the other day that we are half way through the year and half way to Christmas! So, I hope you are thinking about an idea for our annual competition this year. And just to remind you the theme is Christmas. That gives everyone the opportunity to get involved and once again give us a well-represented category at the show. Look forward to seeing you all at the next club night.

Paul

## **LAST MONTHS SPEAKER**

Our chairman, Paul Reader stepped in at the last moment and gave a wonderful talk and slide show of his photos of wildlife. I always enjoy these as Paul is so knowledgeable about wildlife as well as being a great photographer. He is becoming quite well known for this so thanks Paul for a great evening.

## **MEMBERS WORK**

I brought in some of the new items I have just started turning including dogs, cats, chicken and mice. Bob Jubb brought in some of his wonderful miniature carvings which he had inlaid. Some of these miniature carvings take many hours of work to complete



## FEATURE ARTICLE

### TREES ARE AMAZING

They provide beauty, shade, oxygen, clean air and water, fruit, nuts and wood products such as paper, furniture and housing. These benefits are well known. But did you know that literally thousands of products are made from trees? Many are surprising! From the medicine L-Dopa for treating Parkinson's disease, to film in your camera, forest products are all around us.

When trees are used to make lumber and plywood, there are left over chips, bark sawdust. The chips and sawdust are made into wood pulp for paper and other products. Not too long ago, those leftovers would have been burned as waste. Bark is used for landscaping, and to generate electricity for paper and lumber mills. Modern forest products operations are very efficient at using every part of a tree. Nothing is wasted.

Wood is made of tiny fibres (**cellulose**) and the natural glue that holds them together (**lignin**). When wood is turned into pulp for paper, heat and chemicals dissolve the lignin and release the cellulose fibres'. By-products of this process are used in asphalt, paint, chewing gum, detergents and turpentine.

Cellulose is used for paper and much, much more. It is a principle part of melamine dinnerware, toilet seats, tool handles and cellophane. It is also used to produce helmets, toothbrushes and electrical outlets. Other refined cellulose products include rayon fabric, and nitrocellulose which is used to make nail polish, solid rocket fuel and industrial explosives.

Wood pulping by-products are used for many different things, ranging from cleaning compounds, deodorants and hair spray, to artificial vanilla flavouring, medicines and cosmetics. Torula yeast, produced from wood sugars separated in the pulping process, is a high-protein product used in baby foods, cereals, imitation bacon, pet foods and baked goods.

Silvichemicals (Chemicals from trees) are so much a part of our civilization that we take them for granted. But they wouldn't exist without wood and wood products. Trees are truly a miracle resource!

### THIS MONTHS WOOD QUIZ

In which continent did the monkey-puzzle tree originate?.....Answer on page 5

### AMAZING TREES

#### AMAZING TREES IN SUSSEX

### SWEET CHESTNUTS OF HERSTMONCEUX CASTLE

When my son was younger, he loved looking round castles. So, one day we took him to Herstmonceux Castle. As most of you may know, it's not what I would call an old castle that's steeped in history. But what I liked most about the place was not the building itself but was very taken with the Sweet Chestnut trees growing alongside the castle. They remind me very much of me; old, misshapen and wrinkly. I happened to talk to one of the security guards and he told me they were planted over 300 years ago and that originally there was a line of them planted from the coast right up to Windmill Hill. A few can still be found but unfortunately most have disappeared. But despite their age, they still produce a yearly crop of nuts which I have to admit are something I do love eating. Incidentally in the castle in the long room, there are some oak raised and fielded panels. One of them is the largest quarter sawn oak panel I have ever seen. I spent quite some time trying to see if I could find a joint but eventually came to the conclusion it was made from one piece of timber. My dear wife had to virtually drag me away. Must have come from a very large tree.



## **AMAZING TREE FACTS**

The height above sea level at which trees cannot grow is called the tree line. This changes with latitude - in the Alps it is approximately 7000ft, whilst in North Wales it is a mere 1820ft.

## **THIS MONTHS JOKE SPOT**

### **Only one kiss per yard**

Walking up to a department store's fabric counter, the pretty girl said, "I would like to buy this material for my new dress. How much does it cost?"

"Only one kiss per yard," replied the male clerk with a smirk on his face.

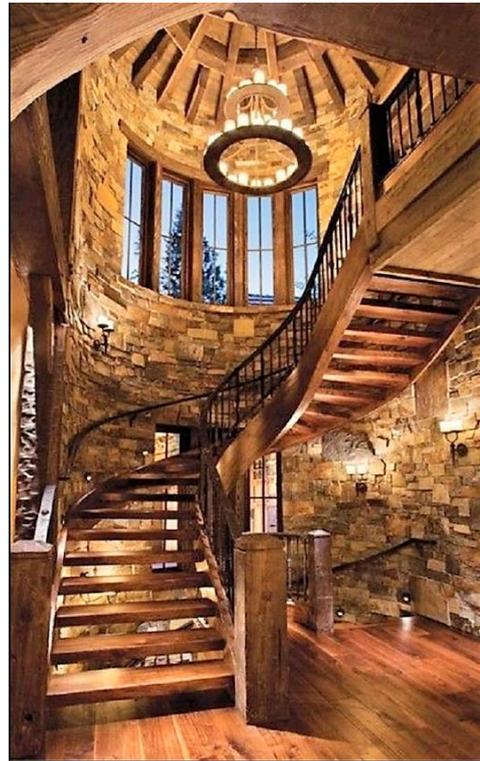
"That's fine," said the girl. "I'll take ten yards."

With expectation and anticipation written all over his face, the clerk quickly measured out the cloth, wrapped it up, then teasingly held it out.

The girl snapped up the package, pointed to the elderly wrinkly faced lady behind her, and smiled, "Grandma's gonna pay the bill."

## **THE AMAZING WORD OF WOOD**

Wood must surely be one of the most versatile materials ever. I never cease to be amazed at not only the things we get from wood but the fantastic variety of products people produce from wood. You only have to look at the variety of products produced by our members and that is only a small amount of the thousands of things made world-wide. On the internet there are amazing photos of items people have made from wood and I love looking at them so use this spot to share them with you all.



## FUTURE SWS TALKS

### 2018

July 11<sup>th</sup> Lorraine Kelly Wild Life Wood sculptures.

August 8<sup>th</sup> David Dyke, Luther + Exotic wood supplier

September 12<sup>th</sup> SWS Tool Auction

October 10<sup>th</sup> Michael Blencowe: - Sussex Nature Reserve

November 14<sup>th</sup> TBA

December 12 Video Tiger Safari / Paul and Katrina Reader Quiz

### 2019

January and February **No Meetings**

March 13<sup>th</sup> Resume of Christmas Show

When you are out and about at wood shows or exhibitions, if you see any person you think might be a candidate to give us a talk, please do ask them or at least take a note of their details and pass it on to Robert Packer who is taking over from Wendy in organising our future talks or any of our

committee member so we can maintain the great speakers we have had. We are always open to suggestions for new speakers and we do need your help and input to help with this. Please also let me know of any shows or exhibitions you think may be of interest to our members so I can include them in the section below.

## **EVENTS FOR 2018**

28<sup>th</sup> 29<sup>th</sup> Woodfest Caerwys North Wales

### **AUGUST**

25<sup>th</sup> 26<sup>th</sup> The Stock Gaylord Oak Fair Sturminster Newton Dorset

25<sup>th</sup> 26<sup>th</sup> 27<sup>th</sup> Wakehurst Place (SWS members will be exhibiting)

### **September**

16<sup>th</sup> 17<sup>th</sup> European Woodworking Show, Cressing Temple Barns Essex

28<sup>th</sup> 29<sup>th</sup> 30<sup>th</sup> Bentley Woodfair

28<sup>th</sup> 29<sup>th</sup> 30<sup>th</sup> Yandle's Autumn show Martock Somerset

29<sup>th</sup> 30<sup>th</sup> Surrey Hills Woodfair (to be confirmed) Birtley House Estate, Guildford, Surrey

### **October**

12<sup>th</sup> 13<sup>th</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> D & M Tools Tool Show Kempton Park Racecourse Surrey

26<sup>th</sup> 27<sup>th</sup> Woodworking Power Tool Show Westpoint arena Exeter Devon

### **December**

21<sup>ST</sup> Setting up at Henfield for Sussex Woodcraft Society Annual Show and Exhibition

22<sup>nd</sup> Annual show at Henfield for Sussex Woodcraft Society Annual Show and Exhibition

(9.00 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.)

Please note - as it is possible some shows may be cancelled or have the dates changed. Please check with organisers before

## **ANSWER TO THIS MONTHS WOOD QUIZ**

Answer..... South America and the first seed were brought into this country by Sir Archibald Menzies